

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

AGREEMENT FOR A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF MILPITAS AND SEONGNAM CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Milpitas, USA and Seongnam City, South Korea established a Friendship City Relationship on April 8, 2015, and;

WHEREAS, both cities seek to enrich cultural understanding, create adult and student exchange opportunities and broaden cooperation to encourage goodwill between the Cities, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Milpitas and Seongnam City support the promotion of mutual understanding, expansion of official and non-governmental exchanges, and friendship through the promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific Region and the world at large, and;

WHEREAS, in order to develop a Sister City Relationship with cooperation between the City of Milpitas and Seongnam City, both Cities agree to support a Sister City Relationship on the following terms:

1. To promote common prosperity and development, both Cities will organize, on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and goodwill, cultural exchanges, contacts to support an electronic “pen pal” program for students, and other information sharing that may include art, business and commerce, culture, governmental administration, health and sports interests, history, science, technology and other information sharing.
2. Citizens, civic and business groups of each city are recognized as ambassadors of goodwill to organize cultural exchanges that may include the above topics.
3. Each City shall organize cultural exchanges, to the extent possible, involving adults and students within the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding. Each exchange and or visit shall be reviewed in advance between the Milpitas Sister Cities Commission and representatives of Seongnam City.
4. Each City agrees to assume all costs of a visit to the Sister City including accommodations, meals and tours unless home stays and other accommodations are agreed upon in advance.
5. Cultural exchange visit details and activities shall be cooperatively agreed upon by organizing citizens, civic and business groups. Activities shall be provided with the objective to deepen cultural awareness and friendship between citizens, business leaders and government officials.

6. The leaders and top-level department administrators of both Cities shall maintain and facilitate open channels of communication to expedite consultation, exchange and cooperation on questions of issues and common concern.
7. Both Cities agree that all elements of the Sister City Relationship are to remain noncontroversial and will maintain that historically controversial political issues play no part in this Sister City Relationship.
8. The effective term for this Memorandum of Understanding shall be for two years following the date of execution of the Memorandum. Prior to expiration of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Sister City Relationship shall be reviewed by the Milpitas Sister Cities Commission and representatives of Seongnam City to evaluate the progress of the relationship, as well as recommend whether the relationship shall continue.
9. This Memorandum of Understanding represents the entire agreement between the Cities. It may not be changed or modified without a resolution signed by the leaders of both cities.

These two Cities hereby execute this Memorandum of Understanding to expire within two years from the noted date(s).

Seongnam City
On its behalf

City of Milpitas
On its behalf

Jae Myeong Lee, Mayor
Date Signed:

Jose S. Esteves, Mayor
Date Signed: